

SENATE BILL 558

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37,
Chapter 5, Part 5, relative to investigations by the
department of children's services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 5, Part 5, is amended by
adding the following as a new, appropriately designated section:

(a) If it is reasonably foreseeable that an investigation conducted by the
department or the commissioner pursuant to authority granted by this chapter, whether
the investigation is internal or external, will likely result in criminal prosecution, the
department shall immediately notify the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over
the area where the criminal conduct occurs.

(b) The notice shall include a statement that the department will fully cooperate
with the law enforcement agency and district attorney general if they choose to initiate a
separate investigation or a subsequent prosecution of the conduct under investigation by
the department or commissioner.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015, the public welfare requiring it.